

FBIS 108

FRENCH FOREIGN MINISTER HOLDS PRESS CONFERENCE IN BEIRUT

BE21458 INA IN ARABIC 1245 GMT 21 OCT 74 BE

(TEXT) BEIRUT, 21 OCTOBER--FRENCH FOREIGN MINISTER JEAN SAUVAGNARGUES HAS SAID THAT THE PALESTINIAN PROBLEM IS ONE OF THE FUNDAMENTAL SUBJECTS THAT MUST BE DEALT WITH IN THE MIDDLE EAST AREA.

HE ADDED THAT FRANCE CONSIDERS IT THE RIGHT OF ALL THE STATES IN THE AREA TO LIVE IN PEACE. IT ALSO CONSIDERS THAT THE BEST WAY TO KEEP VIOLENCE AWAY FROM THE AREA IS TO GIVE THE PARTIES CONCERNED RESPONSIBILITY ON THE WORLD PLANE TO ENABLE THEM TO SUBMIT THEIR PROBLEM INTERNATIONALLY.

SPEAKING AT A PRESS CONFERENCE HE HELD HERE THIS AFTERNOON, SAUVAGNARGUES DESCRIBED HIS MEETING WITH YASIR 'ARAFAT THIS MORNING AS BEING VERY USEFUL AND AS HAVING LEFT A GOOD IMPRESSION.

HE RULED OUT THE POSSIBILITY THAT THE UNITED STATES WILL LAUNCH AN ECONOMIC CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE OIL-PRODUCING COUNTRIES. HE SAID THAT FRANCE VIEWS A DIALOG AS THE ONLY SOLUTION FOR ALL THE PROBLEMS AMONG THE OIL-PRODUCING AND CONSUMING COUNTRIES.

ASKED HIS OPINION ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF FORMING A PALESTINIAN STATE, THE FOREIGN MINISTER MERELY SAID THAT IT IS PREMATURE.

HE DENIED REPORTS THAT LEBANON REQUESTED ANY FRENCH GUARANTEES FOR PROTECTING ITS TERRITORY AND SOVEREIGNTY, BUT SAID THAT THERE IS A CLEAR FRENCH STAND REGARDING LEBANON.

THE FRENCH FOREIGN MINISTER EXPRESSED HIS COUNTRY'S READINESS TO PARTICIPATE WITH THE ARAB COUNTRIES IN INCREASING COOPERATION BETWEEN THE ARABS AND EUROPE.

THE FRENCH FOREIGN MINISTER MET TODAY WITH YASIR 'ARAFAT, THE SPEAKER OF THE LEBANESE CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES AND THE PRIME MINISTER. HE IS DUE TO LEAVE BEIRUT FOR AMMAN LATER TODAY AT THE CONCLUSION OF HIS 3-DAY VISIT TO LEBANON.

21 OCT 204Z HWM/HH

FBIS 109

PLO CHAIRMAN 'ARAFAT WARNS OF FIFTH WAR WITH ISRAEL

BE211300 BAGHDAD INA IN ARABIC 0950 GMT 21 OCT 74 BE

(TEXT) CAIRO, 21 OCTOBER--PLO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN YASIR 'ARAFAT HAS SAID THAT HE SEES NO POSSIBILITY OF A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

IN A STATEMENT PUBLISHED IN THE EGYPTIAN WEEKLY ROSE AL-YUSUF TODAY, 'ARAFAT SAID THAT HE SAW NO ALTERNATIVE TO A FIFTH WAR WITH ISRAEL. HE WOULD CONTINUE TO SOUND THE ALARM SO THAT OUR NATION WOULD NOT BE SURPRISED BY A NEW ISRAELI ATTACK, HE ADDED.

'ARAFAT SAID THAT THE SETTLEMENT OF THE MIDDLE EAST PROBLEM WAS UNLIKELY. ONE YEAR HAD PASSED SINCE THE OCTOBER WAR AND NOTHING HAD HAPPENED. IF THERE HAD BEEN ANY INTENTION TO REACH A SETTLEMENT, SOMETHING WOULD HAVE HAPPENED.

'ARAFAT ASSERTED THAT THE U.S.-JORDANIAN-ISRAELI PLAN CONTINUED TO STRIVE TO PLACE OUR PEOPLE IN HASHIMITE SHACKLES. THIS WAS BEING ATTEMPTED UNDER VARIOUS SLOGANS, SUCH AS: "REALISM AND REASON," "ONE HALF IS BETTER THAN NOTHING," AND "BETTER THE JORDANIAN BOOT THAN THE ISRAELI."

'ARAFAT SAID: WE MUST RECALL THAT THE OCTOBER WAR BROUGHT ABOUT THE DOWNFALL OF CERTAIN PERSONALITIES IN ISRAEL BUT IT DID NOT DO AWAY WITH THE ZIONIST EXPANSIONIST PROGRAM, WHICH IS NOW BEING ADAPTED TO THE NEW SITUATION CREATED BY THE OCTOBER WAR UNTIL SUCH TIME AS ITS EFFECTS CAN BE FINALLY REMOVED THROUGH POLITICAL, DIPLOMATIC AND, EVENTUALLY, MILITARY MEANS.

HE ADDED: THE AGREEMENT CONCLUDED BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND ISRAEL DURING RABIN'S RECENT VISIT HAS ONCE AGAIN PLACED DEALINGS BETWEEN THEM ON THE BASIS THAT ISRAEL'S EXISTENCE IS IMPORTANT TO U.S. INTERESTS IN THE AREA AND THAT THIS CAN BE ACHIEVED ONLY THROUGH THE EXISTENCE OF A "STRONG, DETERENT" ISRAEL. THIS IN ITSELF DESTROYS THE THEORY OF "SUBSTITUTE AMERICAN DISGUISES, UPHELD, UNFORTUNATELY, BY CERTAIN ARAB REGIMES WHICH THINK THAT THROUGH THEIR FRIENDSHIP, THE UNITED STATES CAN DISPENSE WITH ITS DEPENDENCE ON ISRAEL.

'ARAFAT LAUDED THE OCTOBER WAR BUT SAID THAT THE ARABS, FOR VARIOUS REASONS, HAD BEEN UNABLE SO FAR TO BENEFIT FULLY FROM ITS OUTCOME. ON THE CONTRARY, THE ENEMY HAD BEEN ABLE TO BENEFIT FROM CERTAIN ACTIONS THAT TOOK PLACE AFTER IT. MOREOVER, NEW TRENDS BEARING THE AMERICAN STAMP HAD APPEARED IN THE AREA. THESE TRENDS EXPOSED THE REAL ROLE THE UNITED STATES WAS PLAYING AS WELL AS ITS CONTINUED ATTEMPTS TO IMPEDE ARAB PROGRESS TOWARD REAPING ALL THE FRUITS OF THE OCTOBER WAR.

21 OCT 2105Z JT.C/HH